

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process comprising:

- (i) crosslinking a polymer; and
- (ii) adapting ~~the~~ a conformation of the polymer obtained from step (i) to a template dissolved or suspended in a solvent by interacting the polymer with the template, so as to increase the interaction enthalpy between the conformation and the template by more than 0.1 kcal/mole, the template being a chemical compound or a biological structure;
wherein the polymer is prepared on a support material.

Claim 26-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended): The process of claim ~~30~~ 25 further comprising the step of applying the polymer to a the support material in layers in at least two successive steps.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The process of claim 31 wherein the applying step leads to a primarily crosslinked polymer network that has a conformation that can be adapted to the template.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A polymeric network prepared by the process of claim 25.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

- (iii) separating the template from ~~the~~ other substances, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to a mixture of the template and the other substances and ~~preferentially~~ attracting the template to the polymer.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

- (iii) enhancing conversion of the template, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to the template and attracting the template to the polymer polymer's surface and temporarily binding the template to the surface.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

(iii) enhancing an ability to recognize the presence of the template, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to the template and attracting the template to the ~~polymer~~ polymer's surface.

Claim 37 (cancel)

Claim 38 (previously presented): The process of claim 25 wherein, in step (ii), the polymer is adapted to multiple templates to obtain multiple conformations.

Claims 39-43 (canceled)